

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing of all claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium useful in association with a computer which includes a processor and a memory, the computer readable medium including computer instructions which are configured to cause the computer to assure adherence to a policy by a package to be delivered from a sender associated with an enterprise to one or more recipients through a computer network by:

responsive to receipt of package data which is generated by the sender and which specifies the package, applying a policy to the package wherein the policy is specified by policy data received from a policy authority of the sender, the policy authority including a rule base associated with the sender enterprise;
determining whether the policy permits delivery of the package; and
upon a condition in which the policy permits delivery of the package, delivering the package by:
sending notification to the recipients wherein the notification includes package identification data; and
responsive to receipt of the package identification data from a particular one of the recipients, providing the particular recipient with access to the package.

2. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the policy applying comprises:

determining that the package satisfies one or more conditions; and
if the package satisfies the one or more conditions, performing one or more actions which are associated with the one or more conditions.

3. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein the one or more actions include blocking delivery of the package.

4. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein the one or more actions include blocking delivery of the package pending review of the package by the policy authority.

5. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein the one or more actions include documenting the delivery of the package.

6. (Previously presented) The computer readable claim of Claim 5 wherein the documenting of the delivery of the package includes storing a copy of the package.

7. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 5 wherein the documenting of the delivery of the package includes sending a copy of the package to a predetermined recipient.

8. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein at least a one of the actions notifies at least one predetermined recipient of one or more others of the actions.

9. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 8 wherein the predetermined recipient is the sender.

10. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein the one or more actions include modifying the package.

11. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 10 wherein the modifying of the package includes removing one or more data files attached to the package.

12. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 10 wherein the modifying of the package includes modifying a message within the package.

13. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 10 wherein the modifying of the package includes modifying data which specifies the manner in which the package is to be delivered.

14. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 10 wherein the modifying of the package includes modifying data which specifies recipient actions which can be performed on the package after receipt by the recipient.

15. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein one or more of the conditions include a boolean expression involving data related to the sender.

16. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein one or more of the conditions include a boolean expression involving data related to one or more of the recipients.

17. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 2 wherein one or more of the conditions include a boolean expression involving data related to one or more attributes of the package.

18. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the package data is generated by the sender through a web browser.

19. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 18 wherein the package data includes HTML form data.

20. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the policy data is received from the policy authority through a computer network.

21. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the computer network includes the Internet.

22. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the notification is sent to the recipients as an SMTP e-mail message.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the package identification data is supplied as part of a URL.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein the providing the particular recipient with access to the package in response to receipt of the package identification data includes transferring the package in connection with a hypertext transfer (HTTP) type protocol interaction.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1, further comprising:

computer instructions executable to facilitate the receipt of the sender-generated package data.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of Claim 1, further comprising:

computer instructions executable to facilitate the receipt of the package identification data from one of the recipients.

27. (Previously presented) A computer program product encoded in one or more computer readable media, the program product comprising:

instructions executable on one or more servers interposed between a sender and one or more recipients to apply a rule based policy associated with the sender's enterprise to a package to be delivered from the sender to one or more of the recipients,

the instructions further executable to determine whether the policy permits delivery of the package to a particular one of the recipients, and upon determination of a condition in which the policy permits delivery of the package, executable to initiate notification of the particular recipient, wherein the notification includes

package identification data usable by the particular recipient to retrieve the package from at least one of the servers.

28. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 27, further comprising:

- a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) type interface for sender interaction with at least one of the servers; and
- a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) type interface for supply of a notification message to the particular recipient.

29. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein communications via at least one of the HTTP-type interface and the SMTP-type interface are secured using a secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

30. (Previously presented) A secure package delivery system comprising:
a service hosted on one or more servers and interposed between a sender and one or more recipients to apply a rule based policy associated with the sender's enterprise to a package to be delivered from the sender to one or more of the recipients; and
a policy manager of the service operable to determine whether the policy permits delivery of the package to a particular one of the recipients, and upon determination of a condition in which the policy permits delivery of the package, to initiate notification of the particular recipient; and
a delivery manager operable to transmit to the particular recipient a notification message that includes package identification data usable by the particular recipient to retrieve the package from the service.

31. (Previously Presented) The secure package delivery system of claim 30, further comprising:

- an interface for communication with a policy authority for the sender's enterprise.

32. (Previously Presented) The secure package delivery system of claim 31, further comprising:

the policy authority.

33. (Previously presented) The secure package delivery system of claim 30, further comprising:

a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) type interface for sender interaction with the service; and

a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) type interface for supply of the notification message to the particular recipient.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the particular recipient is not associated with the sender enterprise.

37. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the particular recipient is not associated with the sender enterprise.

38. (Previously presented) The secure package delivery system of claim 30, wherein the particular recipient is not associated with the sender enterprise.

39. (*New*) A method comprising:

at a server interposed between a sender and one or more intended recipients of an electronically encoded information package, applying a rule based policy associated with the sender's enterprise to the package;

determining whether the policy permits delivery of the package to a particular one of the recipients; and

upon determination of a condition in which the policy permits delivery of the package, initiating notification of the particular recipient, wherein the notification includes

package identification data usable by the particular recipient to retrieve the electronically encoded information.

40. (*New*) The method as in claim 39, further comprising:
allowing the particular recipient to retrieve the electronically encoded information using the package identification data.

41. (*New*) The method as in claim 39,
wherein the interposed server is not within the sender's enterprise.